

Grandson of Local Woman Victim of Pack Beating

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WEATHER

Low cloud and drizzle in the morning giving way to sunny and warmer afternoon. Light variable winds becoming westerly in the afternoon at 12 to 18 miles per hour.

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Change of Mayor Held Likely Should Recount Action Favor 7-Vote Loser

Ballot Recount Hearing Set for Monday Morning

Possibility that Torrance may have a new mayor within the next few days hinges on the outcome of a hearing slated to be heard in the Los Angeles Superior Court on Monday, June 5.

Called for 9:15 a.m. in Department 1 and presided over by Judge Clarence Kincaid, is a demand of Victor E. Benstead, chairman of the Civil Service Commission, for a recount of ballots. A similar action brought by former Councilman Nick Cucci and campaign manager for Benstead, who lost winning a seat on the council by seven votes, will be heard with the original recount demand.

Defendant in the action is present Councilman Willys G. Blount.

A bit of sidelight action to the recount hearing occurred this week with the withdrawal of C. Douglass Smith as Blount's attorney in the case. Smith, who is also employed part time by the City of Torrance as city attorney, stated that two other pending trials made it difficult for him to give Blount proper representation.

Said Smith:

"Due to the fact that the City has litigation pending in the case of Nuncio vs. City of Torrance, which is set for trial in the Superior Court on the 12th day of June, 1950, and further, due to the fact that I have a personal injury suit in the Superior Court set for June 20, 1950, in which I am a plaintiff, together with my wife, and because both actions will require my at-

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NEW QUEEN . . . Jackie Johnson (center), Miss Torrance of 1950, poses with her court following coronation rites last Friday night. Princesses of the court include (left to right) Beverly Moore, Barbara Zachary, Sadie Hawks and Ann Mondor. (Herald photo).

Jackie Johnson Wins Queen Race

Crowning of Jackie Johnson as Miss Torrance of 1950 last Friday night climaxed one of the most successful Junior Woman's Club Queen contests since the first contest five years ago, according to officers of the club.

Miss Johnson, sponsored by Merle Norman Cosmetics, and daughter of a Torrance police officer, Swayne and Mrs. Johnson, 1726 1/2 Martina avenue, was crowned by Mayor Bob L. Haggard at the climax of a suspenseful campaign at the Coronation Ball in the Civic Auditorium.

Mrs. Maxine Jensen, president of the Junior Woman's Club, commented on the six-week campaign:

"Though we fell just a bit shy, a bit over a hundred dol-

lars to be exact, of the mark made five years ago, we feel that this campaign was actually more successful. In 1945 we raised \$3300 for the YWCA Building Fund. This year, with dollars meaning more and more each day, we raised \$5200.

Name of the new queen who succeeded Edna Mae Snell, Miss Torrance of 1949, was known by only one man until the

actual crowning ceremony. William A. Zoeller, a certified public accountant, had collected all of the ballots of the contest and made a final audit of the votes. He sealed the names of the contestants in envelopes, which were not opened nor revealed until disclosed by the master of ceremonies, Jack O. Baldwin.

In second place was Ann Mondor, sponsored by the Rotary Club. In third place was the Lions Club candidate, Barbara Zachary. The Junior Chamber of Commerce's candidate, Beverly Moore, was in fourth place. Sadie Hawks, sponsored

by the Torrance Teen Club, was in fifth place.

The girls shared in more than \$750 in prizes donated by many of the merchants of the community.

Final tabulation of the votes indicated the following standings:

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Careening Trailer Injures Girl on Road Guard Rail

Breaking loose from the truck pulling it, a trailer crashed into a guard rail last Thursday, injuring a 10-year-old girl sitting on the rail.

Taken to the Harbor General Hospital with injuries described as "serious" was Mary Melgosa of 17835 Western avenue.

According to a recount of the mishap by Carl I. Zeek, listed by Torrance police as driver of a Long Beach electrical firm truck, the trailer hit the curb and broke the safety chain while Zeek was turning a corner at 182nd street and Western avenue.

Grandson Victim Of Slugging

Thugs, roving four to the pack, severely beat and slugged the grandson of a Torrance woman early Monday morning, according to local and Venice police departments.

Victim of the severe beating was Edward Whitman, 37, a resident from Texas who was visiting his grandmother, Mrs. Carolyn Melby, 1008 Cravens avenue.

In the Los Angeles General Hospital and barely able to recount the slugging, Whitman told Venice police he had stopped to aid a motorist signaling for help. When he got out of the car, Whitman said, he was slugged, beaten, and kicked almost into unconsciousness. He said he could not identify his assailants in the darkness.

His wallet was missing after the beating, according to Venice detectives.

In spite of a possible skull fracture, Whitman drove his car into a drive-in restaurant for help.

Torrance police were called by the Venice officers in an attempt to locate Mrs. Melby.

Lions To Vote Twice Tuesday

Torrance Lions will do double duty at the polls next Tuesday.

To begin with, like millions of other residents of California, the Lions will trek to the polls to vote in the state primary election.

To top off the day, the members will meet to elect club officers for the year 1950-51.

Sole nominee for the presidency is Albert Ewalt, and the only nominee for the first vice-presidency is Paul Diamond.

L. Milton Isbell, John Ott, and F. S. Selover are running for the post of second vice-president, and Fred Boren is unopposed for secretary, while Ken Olson is the only candidate for treasurer.



AND NONE TOO SOON . . . Mailing of batches of daily political fan mail by candidates seeking publicity for Tuesday's State primaries, probably will end rather abruptly on Wednesday—day after election. Here Pat Hillier, letter-opener-upper at the Torrance Herald, waves a single day's delivery of the political potpourri. (Photo by Lee Weinstein).

Voters Primed For Primaries

On Tuesday, June 6, Torrance voters will journey to the polls for the fourth time in 70 days to cast their ballots in the primary and special state election.

Highlighting the local scene is the contest for Justice of the Peace of the Gardena Township. Contenders for the judgeship, both residents of Torrance, are Judge John A. Shidler, incumbent and Otto B. Willett, Judge of the Torrance City Court.

Contained on sample ballots which were being received by Torrance's 9036 voters this week were three proposed state constitutional amendments and the names of candidates seeking election to 43 different offices including 28 superior Court positions.

Alerted this week by City Clerk A. H. Bartlett were the election boards of Torrance's 31 precincts. The number of precincts has increased by one since the municipal election with the splitting of precinct No. 25 in South Torrance.

Among the proposed amendments voters will be asked to vote on is a proposal which will authorize the issuance and sale of one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000) in state bonds to provide funds to be used by the Veterans Welfare Board pursuing California war veterans

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Work Nears End

Construction on Roth's Super Mart, at 1321 Post avenue, will be completed about the middle of June, a spokesman for the builders said this week.

Announcing the progress of the new supermarket, Stewart St. John, of Hahn-St. John Builders, said the store would be ready to open about a month after construction is completed. Refrigeration units, display cases, and other fixtures will be installed after the construction is completed, St. John said.

Baccalaureate For Graduates Set For Sunday

Baccalaureate services for the nearly 160 graduating seniors at Torrance High School will be held in the High School auditorium beginning at 3 Sunday afternoon.

Guest speaker for the afternoon services will be Rev. Kenneth Carlson, pastor of the First Methodist Church of Santa Monica.

This year's services will be open to friends of the senior class without admission tickets. Vice-Principal Charles Wallace said this week.

The High School orchestra will provide the processional and recessional music. Wallace said. The High School A Capella choir will sing.

Representing Torrance churches at the ceremonies will be Rev. Arthur Bello, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church; Rev. J. Russell Killman, First Baptist Church; and Rev. Paul Wenske, First Lutheran Church.

Tomorrow night, the Junior-Senior Prom will be held at the Pales Verdos Country Club from 8:30 until 11:30.

Open to all members of the Junior and Senior classes, the prom is the last social function of the school season.

Warren Nelson and his orchestra will furnish the music, and the two classes will provide special entertainment for the intermissions.

Dress is semi-formal, and guests will be admitted on tickets issued by the high school office, Wallace said.

The climax of the week will be the commencement next Thursday evening in the High School stadium.



NO STANDING IN THE AISLES . . . Mr. Addis Thomas has choice of seats as only visitor to witness canvassing of Board of Education ballots last Friday. (Herald photo).



RESULTS CONFIRMED . . . Members of the present Board of Education and district officials canvass the ballots of the school election held May 19. On hand for the canvassing, which confirmed the published results, were, left to right, Mrs. Grace Wright, Dr. J. Heinrich Egli, Dr. Howard A. Wood, Emmett Ingram and Mrs. Evelyn Carr. Two of the board, Dr. Wood and Mrs. Carr, will yield their seats on the board to ex-Mayor William H. Tolson, a last-minute write-in candidate, and ex-Councilman Albert L. Jackson on July 1. Judge John A. Shidler was returned to the board in the election. (Herald photo).

Pair Buy 15 Cents Of Thinner; Deal \$100 From Till

While he was selling two customers 15 cents worth of paint thinner, one of them rifled his till of approximately \$100, M. E. Joslin, owner of the Joslin Lumber Company, 1782 West Carson street, told Torrance Police last Friday.

Joslin said the two men, both Negroes, had been in three times to purchase 15 cents worth of thinner apparently to ease the layout.